Green power generation from environment friendly sources

1180. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have convened a meeting with the Seven North Eastern States and the Government of Sikkim in July at Calcutta in connection with a policy on power generation from renewable energy resoucres;

(b) if so, whether meeting was part of the Government's initiative to boost 'green' power generation from environment friendly sources; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has convened a meeting at Calcutta with the officials of Power Departments, State Electricity Boards and State Nodal Agencies of the North Eastern States and Sikkim in connection with the formulation of a common policy for private sector participation in commercial non-conventional power projects in those States. This is part of the efforts to boost power generation in the country from environment friendly sources such as solar, wind, biomass and small hydro.

Solar Energy Programme

1181. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Solar Energy Programme is regarded as one of the World's largest programme, if so, the countries which are following the similar kind of programmes;

(b) what are the highlights of the Solar Energy Programme in other countries:

(c) if the programme is commercially viable in other countries, what is the cost incurred thereon; and

(d) what is the difference in the level of technologies used in India and other countries?